

## GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES -----0------

## DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## DPNR HOSTS SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE WEEK ACTIVITIES

Commissioner Nominee Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources announces that the Division of Environmental Protection will be celebrating **VIRGIN ISLANDS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK** from May 6-10, 2019.

This weeklong celebration begins with two workshops to educate all small business industry owners and managers on compliance and of their environmental responsibilities.

The St. Thomas/ St. John workshop will be held on **Wednesday**, **May 8, 2019** at the VI Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Training Facility located at Nisky Center, 2nd floor, Suite 720 on St. Thomas. The workshops' topic will be: *How does the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) Assist you?* The workshop will provide information on the free and confidential services of the program, compliance assistance and understanding environmental regulations implemented in the Clean Air Act Amendment of 1990.

The St. Croix workshop will be held on **Thursday, May 9, 2017** at the Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, #1 Golden Grove (located directly across from Spicy Grill). The workshop will provide the Air Condition & Refrigeration industry with information on Compliance and Best Management Practices, Federal and Local Environmental Regulations 40 CFR Part 82 Subpart F Section 608 and 609.

Both workshops are from 10:30 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. and are **FREE**. A variety of other seminars will be presented during the week geared towards potential and existing business owners.

These weeklong workshops will culminate in an awards ceremony to be held on **Friday**, **May 10**, **2019**, at the University of the Virgin Islands Albert Sheen Campus, North West Wing Rooms 102 and 103 on St. Croix at 10:00 am. to 12:00pm.

This years' Environmental Stewardship Award Winners are:

St. Croix - J.D.'s Appliances Repair, owner Johnson Daniel
St. Thomas- Central Air, Inc., owner Clement Vanterpool
St. John - Villa Cool, LLC, owner Ernest Baptiste

These workshops are sponsored by the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program, DPNR-DEP in collaboration with the VI Small Business Development Center, and the University of the Virgin Islands.

For more information on the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program workshops contact Jasmine A. Blyden, Territorial Program Coordinator at 774-3320 on St. Thomas.

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In 1990, the U.S. Congress passed the Clean Air Act Amendments, under which States and territories must establish a Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP). The program is an educational program designed to help small businesses to comply with the Act, keep owners up-to-date on new regulations and requirements that could impact their businesses.

